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Cool Globes

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CoolGlobes

Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet

The "Cool Globe" sculptures that appear throughout this exhibition underscore the global nature of human impact on climate, resources, and ecosystems. Cool Globes is an innovative ongoing project that uses public art to inspire action. Designed by local, national and international artists, individuals, schools, and organizations, no two globes are alike.

Each globe depicts positive actions that reduce human impact on earth's fragile environment. See them all and find the one that motivates you to live more sustainably.

Cool Globes is a non-profit organization that highlights environmental concerns. For more information about the Cool Globes project visit www.coolglobes.com.



1. Green Communication: Sharka Glet

If the 32 million Americans who could telecommute worked from home just once per week, over 1 billion pounds of carbon pollutants would be saved each year. A grid of latitudes and longitudes cover Sharka Glet's painted globe. The "old" grid displays forms of communication and transportation from years past; the "new" grid illustrates modern means of connecting with each other. With various representations of green technology connected to each other via the Internet, the globe's top half teems with vitality, suggesting that strong communications about the environment lead to a happy, healthy planet.



2. Responsible Manufacturing: Karen Ami

Sustainability is a top priority as corporations focus not only on products manufactured, but on the manufacturing process as well. Responsible manufacturing incorporates increasing energy efficiency, eliminating waste, recycling of materials, and lowering carbon emissions in factories. Corporations are proving there is "green" in being green—among Fortune 100 companies, 60% adopted sustainable practices. Environmentally conscious manufacturers are developing products that can be more easily recycled at the end of their useful life-cycle, aiming to avoid landfill waste. Karen Ami's design features smokestacks blossoming and spewing nature, hopefully creating a balance between modern industrialization and mother earth.



3. Drive Smart: Ian Ray

Altering driving habits can decrease the amount of carbon dioxide that cars produce. "Piggybacking" errands reduces the number of miles driven, and by lightening up on the gas pedal and brakes, cars can achieve up to 35 percent better gas mileage. These small changes can seriously affect the amount of carbon emissions clogging our air supply. Using graffiti-style art, Ian Ray brings these issues to the younger generation's attention. A number of hand-drawn panels feature people incorporating the "drive smart" ideas and helping shrink their environmental footprint. Ray used basic concepts to illustrate the idea that citizens of all ages can contribute to the environmental cause on an individual level without joining an organized movement.



4. Listen to our Children: Emily Abrams and Michelle Korte Leccia

Twelve-year-old Emily Abrams wanted her globe to illustrate that global solutions to warming are so simple, even children can lead the charge. Via email, Emily enlisted the help of children from 24 countries on 6 continents! Children around the world spoke out! On the globe, the oceans are covered with art submitted by school children from Tortuguero, Costa Rica. Their art, painted on handmade paper from banana leaves, depicts the solution "protect the rainforest." Emily enlisted siblings David, Katie, and Jacob, as well as professional artist Michelle Korte Leccia, to help collage the globe.



5. Unplugged Fun: Francis W. Parker School students and faculty

Americans use more than \$5 billion worth of electricity annually to power televisions. Greenhouse gases are created by energy that runs the household television, DVD player, and game console for an average of eight hours a day! In the creation of this globe, students at Chicago's Francis W. Parker School were asked to draw suggestions for non-electric, environmentally friendly play. Children between the ages of 4 and 18 responded with drawings and words that resulted in a variety of images representing different forms of play and games, aiming to inspire others to turn off the tube.



6. Change Your Light Bulbs: Derric Clemmons

Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) use about one quarter of the energy of incandescent bulbs and last 10 times longer. If every American household switched one light bulb to a CFL, it would save enough power to light 2.5 million homes for an entire year. To highlight the distinction between energy-saving and energy-draining bulbs, Derric Clemmons presents both in his globe. Cooling and warming colors of light flow like waves from the CFL bulb, while blackened, coal-burning strands of soot stream from the incandescent bulb.



7. Unite To Solve Problems: Michelle Maynerick

United by a passion for the fight against global warming and a love of art, 13 Cool Globes committee members pooled their resources to sponsor this globe. The Cool Globes project is proof-positive that a little collaboration goes a long way. A true community effort, Cool Globes sprang to life thanks to the alliance of countless individuals and organizations. Michelle Maynerick stenciled individual portraits around her bright yellow and orange world to indicate that what is overwhelming for one is rendered possible simply by individuals uniting together. The globe's single phrase spells out this perspective: "The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its UNITY is firmly established."



8. Conserve Water: Mirjana Ugrinov

The average American family uses 350 gallons of water every day. Power plants emitting greenhouse gases go to work every time someone turns on the tap, using electricity to extract, transport, purify, and distribute water. To illustrate the importance of water conservation, Mirjana Ugrinov installed a variety of nickel-plated, brass water-saving faucets and handles around her globe. While the fixtures function as decorative elements, their real purpose is to make the viewer think of their own simple ways to conserve, like choosing narrow nozzles. Ugrinov clustered handles over regions that use the most hot and purified water to convey that every drop counts.



9. Use Your Imagination: Mr. Imagination

It's a simple fact: buying items that contain recycled materials helps conserve natural resources and energy. Consumers can buy carpeting made from plastic soda bottles, tile constructed from recycled glass, and even apparel made from reclaimed fibers. Using recycled materials has long been an integral part of Mr. Imagination's work. His globe was created from flattened bottle caps cut into various shapes and strategically placed on cities around the world. The oceans' shiny surfaces allow spectators to see their reflection, a visual reminder that each person must do their part to recycle and save this beautiful, unique planet.



10. Share a Ride: Cheryl Steiger

Commuting Americans have enough extra room in their 140 million cars to give all of Western Europe a ride. If every car carried just one more passenger on its daily commute, 32 million gallons of gasoline and 600 million pounds of carbon dioxide would be saved each day. The internet and directories or bulletin boards at work are good places to find nearby people to share a carpool. Cheryl Steiger's globe displays the concentration of cars relative to each continent's population, and explores how different models of cars compare to one another. With an emphasis on the simple measures that individuals can take, Steiger sends the message that drivers can make a positive impact by getting the most out of their vehicle's seating capacity in the daily commute.



11. Stop Unsolicited Mail: Ellen Gradman

Over 100 million trees are cut down and over 28 billion gallons of water consumed to produce one year's worth of junk mail. Reducing the amount of junk mail that one household receives will save energy, natural resources, and landfill space. To bring home the concept of the sheer overabundance of mail that Americans receive each year, Ellen Gradman covered her globe with 100 pounds of junk mail that she collected from 36 families in a single week. The globe's strong visual impact is distinguished by the unique texture of the globe's "trashy" surface, and the stenciled numbers reveal how quickly junk mail accumulates.



12. Drive a Fuel-Efficient Car: Vincent Gretch

Every little bit makes a difference! Buying a car that gets 25 miles to the gallon rather than 20 will eliminate 17 tons of carbon dioxide from the earth's atmosphere each year. New technologies, like hybrid cars, take fuel efficiency to an even higher level, and that technology is constantly improving. Artist Vincent Gretch covered the continents with beautiful renderings of hybrid flowers, while the remainder of the globe is painted black, in stark contrast.



13. Sustainable Building Design: NHDKMP Architects, LTD in collaboration with Wangler & Company

Today, many architects and developers are trying to lessen environmental impact through sustainable building design, the growing practice of designing ecologically sensitive structures that do not deplete natural resources through their construction or use. By using recycled or renewable materials, water-saving devices, and alternative energy sources, sustainable structures promote healthy occupant environments and save utility costs. Layers of environmentally friendly building materials project from this globe, emphasizing the effectiveness of using green products in construction. This cube-shaped world speaks to the builder's responsibility to protect both the health of a building's inhabitants and the building's global environment.



14. Run, Walk, and Roll: Bob Anderson

Legs are the best transportation system around. Each mile spent in a car produces nearly a pound of global warming pollutants, so "legging it" makes a huge difference. In this exciting and colorful work, Bob Anderson encourages individuals to use their muscle power instead of motor power. The active figures inhabiting his globe exude a festive spirit that is contagious; by choosing to walk, run, bike, and rollerblade, they are participating in exercise that is both conscientious and fun.



15. Student Eco-Movement: Thaddeus Tazioli

Youth activists are rallying to eliminate schools' carbon emissions and to influence legislators to change energy policy. For example, groups on nearly 600 American and Canadian campuses have joined the Campus Climate Challenge, aimed at bringing sustainable energy to their schools. Thaddeus Tazioli's vibrant globe embodies the positive impact that environmental advocacy groups can have. Generation Y student activists from around the world are portrayed in a digital collage of images and text that show the power of this generation to make a difference, both locally and nationally.



16. Composting: Bill Friedman

Banana peels, coffee grounds, and grass clippings may not seem like globewarming culprits, but how this waste is treated makes a difference. Composting, nature's way of recycling and turning organic garbage into a natural garden fertilizer, is a perfect solution. The live worms in this globe's container are turning food waste and shredded newspaper into a rich soil nutrient. Bill Friedman incorporates natural processes into his work to show concern about the treatment of organic waste and its effects. Just like the worms living in the worm bin surrounding this globe, composting will help turn a great deal of waste into rich, valuable soil.



17. Green Your Home: Luz Maria Castillo

One house can be responsible for producing twice as much greenhouse gas as a car. Performing a home energy audit to target lost energy is a good place to start reducing these emissions. Based on the results, people can improve heating and cooling efficiency with caulking, weather stripping, and extra insulation. Luz Maria Castillo detailed the process of greening the home by dividing her globe into colorful rooms that each show a solution to global warming. Castillo expresses the many different approaches through various techniques like manipulating the proportions of objects to emphasize their importance. Influenced by the Mexican bingo game, Loteria, Castillo's globe implies that we are gambling with the earth.



18. Green Roofs Save Energy: Deborah Adams Doering

Green roofs are not only attractive; they also add usable green space and reduce heating and cooling needs by moderating temperatures on the roof, inside the building, and in surrounding areas. To create this globe's "mini green roof," Deborah Adams Doering worked with progressive techniques including specially designed "coir" trays made of coconut, which are fully biodegradable. Beyond the visible depiction, Doering pays added homage to green roofs by choosing ecofriendly paints, which, as with green roofs, mean fewer toxins and fumes being released into the atmosphere.



19. Wind Farms: Lisa Fedich

Wind is an increasingly valuable source of renewable energy. In fact, experts believe that the United States could ultimately harvest 20 percent of its electricity from wind power. Lisa Fedich teamed up with hospitalized children from Snow City Arts to depict how using wind and solar power can dramatically reduce our carbon emissions. Painted as a blustery day for the world, the globe contains excerpts of children's poetry reflecting their interpretation of the power of wind. Whimsical pinwheels spin around the globe, inspiring viewers of all ages to dream big when it comes to wind.



20. Plant Trees: Kate Tully

Urban forests are the plants and trees that beautify and protect a city, provide shade, remove pollution, and reduce traffic noise. Kate Tully presents one of the most basic solutions to global warming available: planting trees. Tully covered her globe with four different types of trees, overlapping the regions of the world from which they originate, and identified with a nameplate. Continents peek out from beneath each tree, painted with an orange glow to symbolize the overheated Earth. The trees, conversely, are tinted with cooler colors to represent their cooling effect.



21. Eco Heroes: Andrea Harris

Heroes in the environmental movement help heal the earth. This globe focuses on strategic successes that have linked humanitarian efforts and specific carbon exchange projects around the world. Portraits of citizens who have contributed to the environment and relief-form paintings of forests pop up in locations on the globe where they have made a difference. Andrea Harris illustrates how humans play a large role in keeping existing forests intact and planting new trees, ultimately helping clean the air by returning pure oxygen.



22. Reduce, Reuse Recycle: Mitch Levin

Over the last 35 years, the amount of trash each person generates has almost doubled from 2.7 to 4.4 pounds every day. Product packaging accounts for one third of the trash we generate, so choosing products with reusable or readily recyclable packaging—or buying in bulk—will result in a much lower trash yield. Sustainable designer and artist Yair Engel spends a lot of time thinking about the amount of "stuff" there is in the world. Using waste products like plastic shampoo bottles, used toys, and product packaging from Israel to achieve a highly three-dimensional effect, Engel's colorful and thought provoking globe issues an important missive: stop over-consumption of material goods.



23. Landfill Gas Energy: Joi Leo Wagenberg

When garbage is left to decompose in landfills, it emits a potent methane gas that greatly contributes to global warming. The Landfill Methane Outreach Program encourages the use of technologies that harness landfill gas for energy. Since the program began in 1994, methane reductions from landfills have been equivalent to eliminating the emissions of 15 million vehicles each year. Lush greens and blues, symbolizing a healthy Earth, stand in stark contrast to the scraps of garbage that encircle the bottom half of this globe. The two halves evoke a shockingly realistic picture of the effects of degradation and pollution—like that from methane gas—on the earth. Joi Leo Wagenberg developed this design to express the necessity for creating a positive cycle of recycling waste into usable resources.



24. Be Inspired: Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects Tracy Taylor, Lisa Gregg, Jennifer Simokaitis, Jeaneane Quinn

Get in touch with the earth by growing fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Instead of buying produce that has been packaged and shipped, enjoy homegrown fruits and vegetables—fresh from the garden to the table. More than 2,000 colorful seed packets envelop this globe as it rises like a flower from a terracotta style pot filled with live plants. Gardens absorb carbon dioxide, reduce the amount of energy from the sun that is retained by paved surfaces, and slow rainwater flow into storm-water sewer systems. The artists

demonstrate that planting a garden need not be a huge endeavor. Even a small pot or container garden can make an impact.



25. Communicate: Vance Williams

Global warming must become part of this culture's consciousness. Black lines of communication spread between countries and across continents, covering Vance Williams' globe with patterns similar to those of an airline's flight paths. Encircling the center of the globe are photographs of people with statements about how individuals can get involved. Fluorescent megaphones appear across the continents, enabling all of us to spread the word.



26. Sustainable Farming: Kari Kaplan

Farmers can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by using crop rotation and improved irrigation and by driving tractors fueled with biodiesel. Farming without tilling reduces carbon emissions from diesel heavy equipment, and other natural practices, like grazing animals in pastures and using organic, indigenous seeds, can also benefit the environment. Kari Kaplan's globe is covered with a colorful patchwork of organic products that occur naturally on each continent, including coffee beans, blue and yellow corn, parsley, lentils, mung beans, paprika, melon seeds, and barley.



27. Future Solar: William Conger and Sarah McDonald

Large scale solar power plants are currently being constructed, and other developing technologies include holographic films that concentrate sunlight onto solar cells, solar hydrogen fuel cells, and hybrid solar-wind power systems. Colorful wavy shapes symbolize the solar energy at Earth's surface on William Conger and Sarah McDonald's globe. Nine white circles represent the concept of dedicating small zones across the world to solar panels. In reality, these panels would take up less than one-tenth of one percent of the earth's surface but would collect enough sunlight—even at the current 15 percent efficiency—to meet all world energy needs to the year 2030.



28. Learn From Ecology: Stockyard Institute and Hyde Park Art Center

A delicate balance of soil conditions, lighting, temperature, water, and air are needed to make Earth's ecosystem thrive. These elements also make up the earth's biosphere, a surprisingly thin surface layer that extends from 11,000 meters below sea level to 15,000 meters above, where all living matter exists. The artists demonstrate this delicate environment with a globe that, filled with real plants, is itself a living ecological laboratory. The Stockyard Institute is an artist collective that works with residents in Chicago's Austin neighborhood. As a result of this community orientation and collaboration, the group chose a terrarium for their globe to convey their holistic view of the effects of global warming.



29. Hydropower: Aesop Rhim

Hydropower is created by capturing power from the movement of tides, the crashing of waves, and the channeling or damming of rivers. Hydropower is a clean, efficient source of renewable energy. Aesop Rhim designed his globe to represent hydropower made from the ocean's movement. Peaceful oceans move with the tides and create waves, quietly producing hydropower. Rhim used acrylic ink to paint the globe and snips of vinyl aluminum to portray the ocean's birds.



30. Neutralize Your Carbon Footprint: Cathi Schwalbe-Bouzide and Paul Bouzide

Becoming "carbon neutral" means that you balance the effect of the carbon emissions you create through your energy consumption with ways of encouraging carbon sequestration, including purchasing "offsets." Personal impact and responsibility inspired Cathi and Paul Bouzide's globe. A measure of human impact on the planet is carbon emissions, also known as the carbon footprint. This globe is covered with footprints of children and adults layered over caution stripes which represent land and water masses. Suggestions on how to reduce carbon footprints are a reminder that things can change for the better.



31. Cool Urban Roofs: Alice Sharie Revelski

When roofs are made of dark-colored materials, more heat is absorbed into the building and, consequently, more air conditioning is necessary to keep the inside cool. Reflective roofing materials can reduce the surface temperature of a roof by as much as 100 degrees, cooling whole cities and making attics up to 30 degrees cooler. Combining art with the practice of making scientific concepts into hands-on projects, Alice Sharie Revelski created a planet full of "cool roofs." The mosaic shapes covering the continents are made of roof shingles that reflect UV rays and make roofs energy efficient. The silver oceans dazzle the eye, showing how beautiful, and healthy, the planet will be with more cool roofs.



32. Gift of Clean Air: Wynne Graham, Rick Honn, Sidwell Friends School

This globe designed by students at Sidwell Friends School depicts a factory of solutions. Each small ribbon tied around the smoke is representative of one factory utilizing a new solution. The solutions are as vast and diverse as the geographic locations they span, from solar, wind and geothermal power to increasing energy efficiency and using resources more wisely. The big ribbon tied around the entire globe represents all the small solutions coming together and giving the gift of clean air and healthy environment for future generations. The globe as a whole reminds us that it is through each community doing their part that we will stop global warming.



33. A Plant Based Diet: Martha Jackson Jarvis

A new U.N. report says that nearly half of the water and 80 percent of the agricultural land in the United States are used to raise animals for food. Livestock production is also responsible for almost a fifth of global warming emissions – that's more greenhouse gas than is released from all of the world's transportation combined! You can make a difference with a greener diet. Avoiding meat just once per week can help. It takes far more fossil fuel energy to generate the same amount of protein from a meat source than from a plant source. Try dishes made with beans, grains, and vegetables. Choose grassfed, free-range, organic, and locally or sustainably farmed products whenever possible.